

ROBERT JR. AND EMMA JOHNSON McKNIGHT

Robert McKnight Jr., a son of Robert and Katherine Shields Murray McKnight, was born in Keysport, Pennsylvania. He was a baby of less than one year when his father and mother crossed the plains in a handcart company.

Robert lived his boyhood and adult life in Heber Valley. He was a mason and plasterer by trade, and worked in the lumber and saw mills, however, as a young man, until some time after his marriage. He was a musician, learning to play the cornet first. He was a member of the first band in Heber, which was under the directorship of Berlin Whitaker Sr. Later he learned to play the violin and played at dances his entire life. He was always accompanied by his life-long friend, Dick Duke, at the organ or piano. Edward Murdock also accompanied with his guitar and later his son, Lynn McKnight, played the banjo.

"Uncle Bob," as he was known, was also noted for his contributions on all Church and civic buildings. His sons and daughters were: Lillie, Rudolph, Emma, Ina, Clarence, Nellie, Almeda, Luella, Bert, Lynn and Paul. This made a total of 11 children. Nellie and Clarence both died in infancy.

Emma Johnson, daughter of Jonas and Stena Bringeon Johnson, was born in Tidelhome, Sweden. She was sent to this country for the Church at the age of 12 years. She was seven weeks on a sailing vessel, third class. Her entire food supply was in baskets. After landing at Ellis Island, she was sent to Salt Lake City with a tag pinned on her coat for identification.

Emma lived in Salt Lake City some years with her sister, Nettie Soffia. As a young girl and woman she worked as a laundryist at Brigham Young's Lion House. Later she worked with her sister Nettie in the leading restaurant in Salt Lake for three years. She then came to Heber Valley after her parents came from Sweden. She met Robert McKnight there and after a year of courtship they were married.

She lived at the sawmills in the summers with her husband, until they could acquire a home in Heber City. They lived at Daniels Creek, Wasatch County, for three years and then moved back to Heber. Emma was known for her frankness and industry. She was known as a very hard worker and a home lover. Her memories of her life in Sweden were very keen, and her love for that land was with her always.

ROBERT MONTGOMERY SR.



Robert Montgomery Sr. was born January 7, 1825, in Ireland.

He went to Scotland and married Mary Rogers Loury on March 1, 1846. She died January 10, 1863, in Heber City.

Mary Rogers Loury was born in Scotland on April 25, 1830. Seven children were born to them: Agnes, Sarah, Mary, Robert, Livingston, Elizabeth, Christine. Two children by two later marriages were: Josephine Booth and John L. Horrocks.

Robert Montgomery Sr. was the seventh child of Robert Montgomery and Agnes Shepherd. He was born January 7, 1825, in Churchtown, Ireland. At what age he entered the British army is not known, but at the age of 15 years he left the army and went to Scotland. Records show that at the age of 22, Robert Montgomery married Mary Rogers Loury. Robert was listed as being from Don Donald Parish, Ireland, and Mary gave her home town as Sanquiver Parish, Ayrshire, Scotland. The date was March 1, 1846.

During the winter of 1846, Robert and Mary joined the Mormon Church. Robert was called to preside over the Ayrshire District. To provide for an ever-increasing family, Robert worked in the mines in various capacities. Since this work was proving very